26th March 1955]

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) to (f) The answer[a] is placed on the table of the House."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" What is meant by the term ' owners holdings ' and from what is it distinguished? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Holding by owner (laughter) as against estate holder."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" I want to know whether the term ' owners holding ' includes lands leased to others or whether they mean only lands under personal cultivation? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" When ownership vests in him, then only he will be called owner."

Local Development Road Works

* 1634 Q.—SRI V. K. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to hand over the Local Development Road Works to the district boards for execution, as the district boards are expected to maintain them after execution and if not, why?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" There is no proposal to handover the Local Development Road Works to the district boards for execution.

There is already a machinery set up with the requisite technical staff for execution of these works and it is not considered necessary to make the district boards responsible for their execution."

Motor vehicles with diesel oil engines

* 1635 Q.—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have obtained the opinion of any medical experts as to the effect on human health of the smell produced by the diesel oil engines fitted in motor vehicles like buses, motor cars, lorries, etc.;

(b) on whose recommendation or suggestion this system was introduced; and

(c) the number of motor vehicles fitted with diesel oil engines now running in this State?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) No, Sir.

" (b) Government have no information.

" (c) 1,286 buses (including 220 buses of Government Transport Department) and 723 lorries fitted with diesel oil engines are now running in this State."

[a] Printed as Appendix on page 467 infra.

[26th March 1955

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" I hope the Hon. Minister would have heard from the public as well as the drivers and conductors who happen to travel in these buses that the smell produced causes T.B. when it goes into the lungs; also the sound produced by the engine makes the people deaf as it beats on the drums in the ears. Will the Government consider the necessity for constituting a Medical Expert Committee to go into this question and do the needful in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, the policy of Governments throughout the world and in other States in this country is to go in for diesel buses for various reasons. Further in England and America some Experts were asked to go into this question and they are satisfied that diesel engines are not so dangerous as petrol driven engines."

9-30 a.m. * 1636 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" Sir, I request that this question may be taken day after to-morrow."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yes, I have no objection."

Electrification of Government Offices in Tiruvallur

* 1637 *Q.*—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any proposal is pending with the Government for the electrification of the Taluk office, Sub-Magistrate's Court and the Deputy Collector's Court in Tiruvallur, Chingleput district; and

(*b*) if so, the present stage of the proposal?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Proposals for the electrification of the Taluk office and the Sub-Magistrate's Court at Tiruvallur are under consideration. In regard to the Deputy Collector's office, Tiruvallur, no proposal for electrification has been made."

School of Arts and Crafts, Madras

* 1638 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the peons in the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, are paid daily wages and not monthly salaries, and if so, the reasons therefor;

(*b*) whether they are given any holidays with pay and if not, why; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the students in this institution do not get in time their stipends, brushes, colours, and paper sanctioned to them, and if so, why?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The peons in the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, are paid monthly salaries in the time scale of pay of Rs. 18—1—20 with the usual allowances admissible to such Government servants.